

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in reply to the final Office Action dated May 1, 2007. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 13, 14, 16, 17, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27 and 32 include allowable subject matter and that claims 8-10 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome certain rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 12, 15, 18-20, 22, 25 and 28-31 currently stand rejected. Applicants have amended independent claim 8 to correct a typographical error in order to cure the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Independent claims 12, 15, 22 and 25 have been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter from claims 13, 16, 23, and 27, respectively. Claims 13, 16, 23 and 27 have therefore been canceled. Claims 1-3 have also been canceled, without prejudice. Due to the cancellation of claims 1-3, 13, 16, 23, and 27, claims 4, 6, 7, 17 and 27 have been amended to correct their dependencies. Claim 4 also includes an amendment to ensure proper antecedent basis. No new matter has been added by the amendment. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment submitted herein does not present new issues since the amendments merely incorporate allowable subject matter, correct formality issues or change dependencies of claims based on the cancellation of other claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the submitted amendment be entered.

In light of the amendment and the remarks presented below, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all now-pending claims of the present application.

Claim Objections

The Office Action objects to claim 3 as being substantially duplicative of claim 1. Applicants have canceled claim 3, without prejudice, and thus the objection to claim 3 is now moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112

Claims 8-10 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite and as being incomplete for omitting essential steps. In this regard, independent claim 8 previously recited "a bitwise XOR operation" twice (once in line 4 of claim 8 and again in

lines 7-8). The Office Action objects to the second of these recitations since, as written, the second bitwise XOR operation does not have any inputs defined. Accordingly, Applicants have amended independent claim 8 to correct a typographical error by indicating that the second recitation of the "bitwise XOR operation" does not correspond to a second performance of a bitwise XOR operation, but is instead indicative of the treatment of the result of the performance of the first recited bitwise XOR operation. Applicants respectfully submit that by making this clarification, independent claim 8 is no longer indefinite and includes all essential elements and thus, independent claim 8 is now allowable since there are no prior art rejections related to independent claim 8. Claims 9 and 10 were rejected on the basis of their dependency from a rejected base claim and are therefore now allowable since they depend from an allowable base claim.

Claim 28 currently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite since claim 28 recites "the step of differently processing the second temporary key" without proper antecedent basis in independent claim 26 from which claim 28 depends. As stated above, independent claim 26 has been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter from allowable claim 27. Applicants respectfully submit that the incorporation of claim 27 into independent claim 26 provides proper antecedent basis for the above recited feature.

For all the reasons above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 8-10 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are overcome.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 12, 15, 18-20, 22, 25 and 29-31 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a), as being anticipated by Housley et al. ("Alternate Temporal Key Hash", hereinafter "Housley"). As stated above, independent claims 12, 15, 22 and 25 have been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter from claims 13, 16, 23, and 27, respectively. Accordingly, independent claims 12, 15, 22 and 25 are now believed to be allowable. Independent claim 1 and claims 2 and 3 have been canceled, without prejudice, thus the rejection of claims 1-3 are now moot. Claims 4, 6 and 7 have been amended to depend indirectly from independent claim 8, which Applicants believe to be allowable for reasons set forth above. Accordingly, dependent

claims 4, 6, 7, 18-20 and 29 depend either directly or indirectly from respective ones of independent claims 8, 15 and 25 and thus include all the recitations of their respective independent claims. Therefore, dependent claims 4, 6, 7, 18-20 and 29 are patentable for at least those reasons given above for independent claims 8, 15 and 25.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 4, 6, 7, 12, 15, 18-20, 22, 25 and 29-31 are overcome.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendment and remarks submitted above, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present invention.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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